Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 JIDDA 01386 230541Z ACTION SS-25

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 SSO-00 /026 W

-----125754 230831Z/14

R 230520Z FEB 78 FM AMEMBASSY JIDDA TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1169 USMISSION USUN NY INFO AMEMBASSY MOGADISCIO AMEMBASSY ADDIS ABABA AMEMBASSY PARIS

S E C R E T JIDDA 1386

AMEMBASSY LONDON

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS, SO, ET, XG

SUBJECT: WESTERN ARMS FOR SOMALIA

REF: IR 6 884 0032 78

1.FRENCH DCM CALLED ON POLITICAL COUNSELOR FEBRUARY 21
TO DISCUSS FRENCH CONCERN OVER REPORTS OF MASSIVE SHIPMENTS
OF WEAPONS TO SOMALIA. HE REFERRED TO RECENT STATEMENT
BY AMBASSADOR ANDREW YOUNG THAT 60 AXM TANKS HAD BEEN
ACQUIRED BY SOMALIA FROM SAUDI ARABIA AND ASKED WHERE
YOUNG HAD GOTTEN HIS INFORMATION. POL COUN SAID THAT HE
HAD NOT SEEN TEXT OF YOUNG STATEMENT AND DID NOT KNOW
WHAT HE BASED IT ON. HOWEVER, OUR INTELLIGENCE SOURCES
INDICATED THAT THERE WERE INDEED AMX TYPE EQUIPMENT IN USE IN
SOMALIA, INCLUDING AMX-30 TANKS. POL COUN ALSO STATED
THAT MOSCOW RADIO HAS REPORTED THAT AMERICAN MILITARY
EQUIPMENT SOLD TO SAUDI ARABIA UNDER FMS CASE HAS BEEN
CAPTURED BY ETHIOPIANS IN OGADEN WITH PLAQUE ON IT IDENTIFYING IT AS PROPERTY OF SAUDI MINISTRY OF DEFENSE AND
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AVIATION.

2. FRENCH DCM SAID THAT FRENCH MILITARY ADVISORS IN SAUDI ARABIA ATTEMPT TO KEEP A CLOSE TAB ON FRENCH EQUIPMENT IN KINGDOM AND THAT THEY HAVE NOT NOTED ANY SIGNIFICANT CHANGES IN INVENTORY. HOWEVER, IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE FOR ONE OR TWO OF VARIOUS TYPES OF EQUIPMENT TO BE

TRANSFERRED WITHOUT IT BEING NOTICED.

3. ACTION REQUESTED: WE WOULD APPRECIATE RECEIVING TEXT OF YOUNG STATEMENT AND GUIDANCE ON HOW TO HANDLE INQUIRIES.

WEST

SECRET

NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: Z Capture Date: 01 jan 1994 Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED

Concepts: ARMS SHIPMENTS

Control Number: n/a Copy: SINGLE Draft Date: 23 feb 1978 Decaption Date: 20 Mar 2014
Decaption Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 20 Mar 2014 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
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Office: ACTION SS

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Subject: WESTERN ARMS FOR SOMALIA TAGS: MASS, SO, ET, XG To: STATE USUN NEW YORK

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Review Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014

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